

What is claimed is:

1. A method for receiving information from a Voice-Based Communications System (VCS) account, having a voice-based interface that transmits voice-prompts and receives responses thereto, the method comprising:
  - 5        providing an Automatic Speech Recognition and Natural Language Understanding application (ASR/NLU application) with access data and control data for the VCS account;
  - communicating between the ASR/NLU application and the voice-based interface; and
  - 10        employing the ASR/NLU application to respond to the voice-based interface so as to receive information from the VCS account.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein employing the ASR/NLU includes responding to the voice based interface using at least one of an audio tone, a DTMF tones, a pulse tone, a synthesized voice, and a pre-recorded voice.
- 15    3. The method of claim 1, wherein the access and control data for the VCS account is provided from a computer database to the application.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein communicating between the ASR/NLU application and the voice based interface occurs through a communications network.
- 20    5. The method of claim 1, wherein the communicating between the ASR/NLU application and the voice based interface occurs through a public switched telephone network, a private telephone network, a wireless telephone network, a voice carrier over a data protocol, or voice over IP.
- 25    6. The method of claim 1, further comprising notifying a VCS account subscriber that information has been received by the VCS account.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein notifying the subscriber includes subsequently allowing the subscriber to receive the information from the VCS account.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein allowing the subscriber to receive the information from the VCS account includes receiving information from the VCS in real-time or from a second storage device.
9. The method of claim 6, wherein the step of notifying includes notifying by at least one of facsimile, instant messaging, email, an updated web page, a page, a wireless access device and a telephone call.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the information is a financial information, a voice message, a stock quote, news, entertainment information, a sports score, a horoscope, a prediction, or a reminder.
11. The method of claim 10, wherein the information from the VCS is provided on a fee per call basis.
12. The method of claim 6, wherein the subscriber is prompted to enter an access code to receive the notification.
13. A system for managing a Voice-Based Communications System (VCS) account, having a voice-based interface that transmits voice-prompts and receives responses thereto, the system comprising:
  - an Automatic Speech Recognition and Natural Language Understanding application (ASR/NLU application);
  - a transceiver to communicate information between the VCS account and the application; and
  - a database to store the information received by the application from the VCS account.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the system includes the transceiver being configured to communicate with a client through a communications network and the application being configured to provide the client with the information received by the application from the VCS account.
- 5 15. The system of claim 14, wherein the application is configured to receive from the client the VCS account access data and VCS account interface control data.
16. The system of claim 13, wherein the system is configured to provide an automatic notification to a user by at least one of a facsimile, an instant message, an email, an updated web page, a page to a beeper, a wireless access device and a telephone call.
- 10